

Message Text

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13
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 DHA-02 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OIC-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5599
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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO
SUBJECT: EXBD COMMITTEE ON CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDA-
 TIONS WRAPS UP CONSIDERATION OF COMPLAINTS
 AGAINST MEMBER STATES FOR VIOLATION OF HUMAN
 RIGHTS

REF: PARIS 27706

1. COMMITTEE MET ON SEPT. 23 TO HEAR FINAL SET OF
COMPLAINTS AGAINST USSR AND URUGUAY.

URUGUAY REFUSED TO RESPOND TO CHARGES ALLEGING IM-
PRISONMENT AND TORTURE OF TWO PROFESSORS.

3. TWO CASES INVOLVING VLADIMIR BUKOVSKY AND BORIS
EVDOKIMOV WERE BROUGHT AGAINST USSR. SOVIET PERMDEL
KANAIEV RESPONDED TO CHARGES IN VAGUE FASHION, AND
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ALLEGED CASES WERE BROUGHT AGAINST USSR VIA US POLITICAL

INTERFERENCE. HE ALSO DISCUSSED GENERALLY SOVIET'S INSTITUTIONS AND LAWS FOR TREATING MENTAL ILLNESSES, AND ASSURED COMMITTEE THAT IN NO WAY WOULD AN INDIVIDUAL BE TREATED AS MENTAL PATIENT UNLESS HE REALLY WAS MENTALLY SICK. THUS, THERE COULD BE NO SENSE TO CHARGES TO CONTRARY.

4. FROM SECRETARIAT'S POINT OF VIEW, AND ALSO OF MANY COMMITTEE MEMBERS, THE HEARINGS HAD ACCOMPLISHED SOME BASIC TASKS. HEARING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES FROM BOTH SIDES WOULD HELP TO ESTABLISH UNESCO'S REPUTATION FOR EVEN HANDEDNESS. TOO, ALL CASES BROUGHT TO COMMITTEE BY SECRETARIAT WERE HEARD, AND EXCEPT FOR URUGUAY, ELICITED AT LEAST SOME KIND OF RESPONSE FROM GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED. THE COMMITTEE AND ITS CHAIRMAN TREATED WITH RESPECT BY MEMBER STATES, AND IT AVOIDED CAUSING EMBARRASSING PUBLIC SCANDAL, IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN THAT SESSIONS WERE PRIVATE.

5. A DISSEMINATING VIEW CAME FROM COMMITTEE'S MOST VIGOROUS ADVOCATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, GUNNAR GARBO OF NORWAY. HE DEJECTEDLY SPECULATED THAT ARRIVAL BY THE COMMITTEE IN STATE OF GENTLY POLITICAL STATUS QUO, WOULD MAKE FUTURE GENUINE RESULTS ON BEHALF OF HUMAN RIGHTS MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. THIS MAY BE THE CASE. THE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO PREPARE RECOMMENDATIONS ESTABLISHING NEW CRITERIA GOVERNING "RECEIVABILITY" OF COMPLAINTS FOR PRESENTATION TO EXBD. WHILE THESE WILL CERTAINLY BE AID AT DEPOLITICIZATION OF PROCEDURE BY WHICH COMPLAINTS ARE BROUGHT TO COMMITTEE, THESE NEW CRITERIA ALSO WILL PROBABLY ELIMINATE CONSIDERATION OF SOME VERY WORTHY CASES OF VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

6. THE COMMITTEE WILL CONVENE A SPECIAL SESSION WITH EXBD ON OCT. 1 TO DETERMINE IF THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED IN AN OPEN OR CLOSED SESSION.
RUSH

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